

To: Wisniewski, Patti-Kay[Wisniewski.Patti-Kay@epa.gov]
Cc: Anderson, Angela[anganderso@pa.gov]; Scheetz, Lynne[lscheetz@pa.gov]; Chescattie, Edgar[echescatti@pa.gov]
From: Nesmith, Rodney
Sent: Thur 6/25/2015 12:23:44 PM
Subject: RE: Status/info on Susquehanna due to Miller Chemical Fire
[removed.txt](#)
[2076818_59271_fr.pdf](#)
[2076758_59271_fr.pdf](#)
[20768185f592715ffr5fdraft.pdf](#)
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[2075940_59271_fr.pdf](#)
[2075939_59271_fr.pdf](#)

Thanks Angi for the data.

Patti-Kay, here's what Wrightsville has reported to the Department...

Rodney L. Nesmith, P.E. | Environmental Program Manager
Department of Environmental Protection | Safe Drinking Water Program
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Phone: 717.705.4934 | Fax: 717.705.4930

www.depweb.state.pa.us

From: Chescattie, Edgar
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2015 8:53 AM
To: Wisniewski, Patti-Kay
Cc: Anderson, Angela; Scheetz, Lynne; Nesmith, Rodney
Subject: RE: Status/info on Susquehanna due to Miller Chemical Fire

Hi Patti-Kay!

I hope all is well.

Wrightsville actually collected three sets of samples from their Susquehanna river intake:

- 6/13/15: When the leading edge of the plume (worst case water quality) was estimated to have reached their intake
- 6/15/15: To verify that the plume had passed their intake
- 6/19/15: When they returned to service, as an extra measure of precaution/insure consumer confidence.

All samples were sent to ALS labs in Middletown PA. I do not have a complete copy of the sample results at this time; but, I have requested them and will forward to you when they are available.

Here is a summary of the information I do have...

Wrightsville Superintendent (Brian Lyle) verbally reported that parameters analyzed included: Iron, Manganese, Nitrate, Nitrite, pH, TOC, Total Carbon, Alkalinity, IOC, and VOC. Mr. Lyle also conveyed the following to me over the phone on 6/19/15:

-

6/19/15 Wrightsville:

Brian Lyle reports that all sample results 6/13/15 and 6/15/15 were received from ALS this morning. All sample results were what Brian considered to be normal/background levels for their Susquehanna river intake (e.g. TOC = 4.0, Nitrate = 1.6 and Nitrite = ND). Therefore, river pumps were turned back on at approximately 10:00am this morning. Additional samples were collected this morning and Brian was delivering those to ALS when I spoke with him.

Considering that the S. Branch Conewago received initial runoff containing 20,610 mg/L TOC, the TOC of 4.0 at Wrightsville indicates significant dilution/degradation occurred in the 60 miles of Conewago creek (and associated 5 days of travel time) before reaching the Susquehanna.

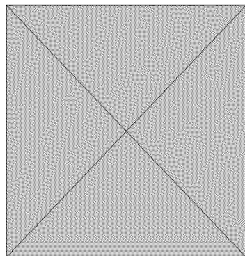
The next water supplier downstream on the Susquehanna is the City of Lancaster, they have an online TOC analyzer monitoring raw water. Lancaster staff carefully monitored this analyzer and reported to us during the event; they saw no significant changes beyond what they would expect during normal rain events. The leading edge of the plume was supposed to reach their intake at 5:30am Saturday morning 6/13/15, the Lancaster Superintendent John Holden reported the following:

6/13/15 Lancaster: As of 9:00 am today, Raw water TOC at their Susquehanna intake was 1.5 mg/L. This value obtained from their continuously monitoring raw water analyzer has been steady at 1.5 mg/L for approximately the last 24 hours. Additionally, this is a slight decrease in TOC from earlier this week, when it was approximately 1.8 mg/L. They consider these background concentrations for the current condition of the Susquehanna and recent rains. They have also recently began Dissolved Oxygen grab sample analysis with no significant variation identified in the past 24 hours.

I hope this is helpful!

Ed Chescattie | Safe Drinking Water Group Manager
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From: Nesmith, Rodney
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 10:31 AM
To: Wisniewski, Patti-Kay; Chescattie, Edgar
Subject: RE: Status/info on Susquehanna due to Miller Chemical Fire

Patti Kay,

The Department is not aware of any impacts at Wrightsville. SRBC/DEP modeling shows TOC would've essentially been background by the time the contaminant plume reached that point. And, it's my understanding Wrightsville's lab sample results were found to be normal for everything for which they sampled, prior to returning the intake to service. (Recall they voluntarily took the intake out of service and lived off raw water storage in a quarry for several days. They took the intake out of service based on time-of-travel estimates.)

All of that said, I don't recall seeing the Wrightsville results (been just a tad busy here). I'll ask my staff to obtain copies of the data and will forward it to you when I get it.

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From: Wisniewski, Patti-Kay [<mailto:Wisniewski.Patti-Kay@epa.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 10:18 AM
To: Nesmith, Rodney; Chescattie, Edgar
Subject: Status/info on Susquehanna due to Miller Chemical Fire

Rod or Ed,

Do you have any information to share with us on water quality? MDE is asking due to interest by water suppliers downstream.

Patti Kay Wisniewski, acting Chief and

Drinking Water Security Coordinator

Drinking Water Branch (3WP21)

US EPA Region 3

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wisniewski.patti-kay@epa.gov

Visit our updated regional security/preparedness and climate adaptation webpage at:
<http://www.epa.gov/reg3wapd/drinking/security.htm#climatechange>

From: rogers, rick

Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 10:03 AM

To: Wisniewski, Patti-Kay

Subject: FW: Susquehanna

MDE is still hoping to get information on water quality data that Wrightsville, PA was

supposed to have collected at their intake as a result of the Miller Chemical Fire and contaminated runoff (see Neil Winner's message, below).

Sounds like Baltimore City is planning on running their Susquehanna intake pumps to do a test on them and I guess they want to make sure that they are not going to be inhaling contaminated water.

The situation in Hanover/New Oxford over the past weekend got a bit more tenuous since the containment pond created to capture the contaminated runoff filled up due to heavy rains and Miller Chemical and their contractors hadn't yet found a WWTP to take the water as of Friday. There was a possibility of the pond overflowing into the Conawego Creek, again.

Thanks,

Rick

Rick Rogers

ODWSWP, WPD

EPA Region 3 (3WP20)

215-814-5711

From: Neil Winner -MDE- [<mailto:neil.winner@maryland.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 9:52 AM

To: rogers, rick

Subject: Fwd: Susquehanna

Hi Rick,

Have there been any results yet from the water quality testing from PADEP for Wrightsville? Baltimore City is looking to test their Deer Creek Pump Station next Wednesday, 6/30.

Thanks,

Neil

Neil B. Winner, P.E.
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Price, James** <James.Price@baltimorecity.gov>

Date: Tue, Jun 23, 2015 at 8:57 AM

Subject: Susquehanna

To: "Neil Winner (neil.winner@maryland.gov)" <neil.winner@maryland.gov>

Neil,

Any news on the water quality in the Susquehanna? We are trying to schedule a vibration test on one of the pumps on 6/30/15.

Jay

James A. Price, Jr.

Chief, Environmental Services

Bureau of Water & Wastewater

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